

CLAIMS:

1. A seating arrangement for a passenger-carrying vehicle, the arrangement providing a plurality of seating positions, a seating position comprising a seat and a footwell, the
5 footwell of a first seating position being located beside the seat of a second seating position, the second seating position being located generally forward of the first seating position, wherein each seat is operable into a reclined state in which a leg-supporting component of the seat projects into the associated footwell, and wherein the first seating position and the second seating position overlap in a transverse direction.
10
2. A seating arrangement as claimed in Claim 1, wherein each seat is associated with one or more armrests, and wherein at least a respective armrest of the first seating position and of the second seating position overlap in the transverse direction.
- 15 3. A seating arrangement as claimed in Claim 1 or 2, wherein the respective seats of the first seating position and of the second seating position overlap in the transverse direction.
4. A seating position as claimed in Claim 3, wherein each seat includes a back and a
20 base and wherein, when the seats are in the reclined state, the respective backs of the first seating position and of the second seating position overlap in the transverse direction.
5. A seating arrangement as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein each seating
25 position comprises a respective region for receiving a passenger's arms when lying on the seat in its reclined state, and wherein a respective arm-receiving region of the first seating position and of the second seating position overlap in the transverse direction.
6. A seating arrangement as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein said footwells are
30 shaped to become narrower in said forward direction.

7. A seating arrangement as claimed in Claim 6 when dependent on Claim 5, wherein at least some of said arm-receiving regions become wider in said forward direction.
8. A seating arrangement as claimed in any preceding claim, further comprising a shell
5 shaped to define a respective station for one or more of said seats and to define a respective footwell on one or both sides of the or each seat station, wherein the station for the seat of the first seating position and the station for the seat of the second seating position overlap in the transverse direction.
- 10 9. A seating arrangement as claimed in Claim 8, wherein the shell is shaped so that the or each seat station becomes wider, and the or each footwell becomes correspondingly narrower, in said forward direction.
- 15 10. A seating arrangement as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the second seating position overlaps with the footwell of the first seating position in said transverse direction.
- 20 11. A seating arrangement as claimed in Claim 10, wherein the second seating position overhangs part of the footwell of the first seating position.
- 25 12. A seating arrangement as claimed in Claim 10 or 11 when dependent on Claim 3, wherein the seat of the second seating position overhangs part of the footwell of the first seating position.
- 30 13. A seating arrangement as claimed in any one of Claims 10 to 12 when dependent on Claim 4, wherein the back of the seat, when reclined, of the second seating position overhangs part of the footwell of the first seating position.
14. A seating arrangement as claimed in any one of Claims 10 to 13 when dependent on Claim 5, wherein an arm-receiving region of the second seating position overhangs part of the footwell of the first seating position.

15. A seating arrangement as claimed in any one of Claims 10 to 14 when dependent on Claim 8 or 9, wherein the seat station for the seat of the second seating position overlaps or overhangs part of the footwell of the first seating position.
- 5 16. A seating arrangement as claimed in any one of claims 10 to 15, wherein the footwell of the first seating position becomes narrower in a direction generally away from a ground surface on which the seating arrangement rests during use.
- 10 17. A seating arrangement as claimed in Claim 16, wherein the footwell of the first seating position narrows at an inflected portion, the inflected portion being located between the leg support component of the seat, when reclined, of the first seating position and the back of the seat, when reclined, of the seat of the second seating position.
- 15 18. A seating portion as claimed in Claim 15 or 16, when dependent on Claim 8 or 9, wherein the shell is shaped so that the or each seat station becomes wider, and the or each adjacent footwell becomes correspondingly narrower, in said direction generally away from the ground surface.
- 20 19. A seating arrangement as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein each seat comprises a back, a seat base and the leg-supporting component and, when moving from an upright state to the reclined state, the back, seat base and leg-supporting component each move in a generally forward direction.
- 25 20. A seating arrangement as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein at least one of said seating positions includes an armrest comprising a shelf overhanging the respective seating position in the transverse direction.
- 30 21. A seating arrangement as claimed in Claim 20, wherein said shelf overhangs the respective seat.

22. A seating arrangement as claimed in Claim 20 or 21, when dependent on any one of Claims 8 or 9, wherein said armrests are fixed with respect to the shell.
23. A seating arrangement as claimed in Claim 20 or 21, wherein, when the seat is in the reclined state, the or each respective armrest overhangs the back of the respective seat.
24. A seating arrangement as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein, in the reclined state, each seat provides a respective sleeping surface that is substantially horizontal with the ground surface on which the seating arrangement rests during use.
25. A seating arrangement as claimed in Claim 8 or 9, wherein the shell is shaped to define a respective station for two or more seats in a row.
26. A seating arrangement as claimed in any preceding claim when dependent on Claim 8 or 9, wherein the shell comprises a portion for accommodating the back of a seat, said portion being fixed in a fore-and-aft direction.
27. A seating arrangement as claimed in any preceding claim when dependent on Claim 8 or 9, wherein the shell comprises a portion for accommodating a back rest of a seat, said portion being movable in a fore-and-aft direction.
28. A seating arrangement as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein each footwell is partially enclosed to define a console adjacent one or both respective seats.
29. A seating arrangement as claimed in Claim 28, wherein each console is shaped to define a respective armrest adjacent the or each adjacent seat, the or each armrest overlapping with the footwell beneath the console.
30. A seating arrangement as claimed in Claim 28 or 29, wherein a table comprising one or more table leaves is associated with each console, the table being deployable

from a stowed state in or on the console in which it is disposed generally parallel with the ground surface on which the seating arrangement rests during use.

5 31. A seating arrangement as claimed in any preceding claim when dependent on Claim 8 or 9, wherein the shell includes a respective buttress portion extending between adjacent seats, or adjacent a single seat, the buttress portion being shaped to define a respective footwell.

10 32. A seating arrangement as claimed in Claim 31 when dependent on any one of claims 28 to 30, wherein the buttress portion provides said console.

33. A seating arrangement as claimed in Claim 32 when dependent on Claim 30, wherein the buttress portion includes a stowage area for said table.

15 34. A seating arrangement as claimed in any preceding claim when dependent on Claim 8, wherein the shell is shaped to define a respective generally upright web portion extending between adjacent seat stations, or adjacent a single seat station.

20 35. A seating arrangement as claimed in Claim 34, wherein said upright web portion includes a surface area disposed in a plane generally perpendicular to the forward direction, and wherein a monitor is carried by said surface area.

25 36. A seating arrangement as claimed in Claim 34 or 35, wherein said upright web portion is shaped to provide a screen between passengers seated in adjacent seats.

37. A seating arrangement as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the footwell of the first seating position extends beyond the base of the seat, when upright, of the second seating position in the forward direction.

30 38. A seating arrangement as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein a plurality of said seating positions are arranged in rows and ranks, the rows being generally

perpendicular to the ranks and being partitioned by one or more aisles, the aisles being generally parallel with the ranks.

39. A seating arrangement as claimed in Claim 38, comprising two aisles, each row
5 comprising a respective single seating position on the outer side of each aisle, alternate rows comprising two seating positions and then three seating positions between the aisles.

40. A seating arrangement as claimed in Claim 38, comprising two aisles, each row
10 comprising a respective single seating position on the outer side of each aisle, alternate rows comprising two seating positions and then one seating position between the aisles.

41. A seating arrangement as claimed in Claim 38, comprising two aisles, each row
15 comprising a respective single seating position on the outer side of each aisle, each row comprising two seating positions between the aisles.

42. A seating arrangement as claimed in Claim 38, comprising two aisles, each row
20 comprising a respective single seating position on the outer side of each aisle, each row comprising three seating positions between the aisles.

43. A seating arrangement as claimed in Claim 38, comprising one aisle, each row
comprising a respective two seating positions on either side of the aisle.

44. A seating arrangement as claimed in Claim 38, comprising one aisle, alternate rows
25 comprising one seating position and then two seating positions on either side of the aisle.

45. A seating arrangement as claimed in Claim 38, comprising three aisles, each row
30 comprising a respective single seating position on both sides of each aisle.

46. A seating arrangement as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein a platform is
provided within each footwell, and wherein, when the associated seat is in the reclined

state, the leg-supporting component of the seat closely approaches the platform within the footwell.

47. A seating arrangement as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein each seating
5 position provides a respective sleeping compartment when the respective seat is in the reclined state, each sleeping compartment comprising the respective footwell and a sleeping surface projecting into the footwell, the sleeping surface comprising the respective seat when in the reclined state, and wherein the sleeping compartment of the first seating position and the sleeping compartment of the second seating position
10 overlap in a transverse direction.

48. A seating arrangement as claimed in Claim 47, wherein the sleeping compartment of the second seating position overlaps with the footwell of the sleeping compartment of the first sleeping compartment in the transverse direction.

15

49. A seating component for a passenger-carrying vehicle, the component comprising one or more seats or seat stations and a respective footwell beside one or both sides of the seat, and being further adapted to construct a seating arrangement as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 48.

20

50. A seating component as claimed in Claim 49 wherein the seat or seat station overlaps with the or each adjacent footwell.

50. An aircraft comprising a seating arrangement as claimed in any one of claims 1 to
25 48.

51. A seating arrangement for a passenger-carrying vehicle, the arrangement providing a plurality of sleeping compartments, a sleeping compartment comprising a footwell and a sleeping surface projecting into the footwell, the footwell of a first sleeping
30 compartment being located beside the sleeping surface of a second sleeping compartment, the second sleeping compartment being located generally forward of the

first sleeping compartment, wherein the first sleeping compartment and the second sleeping compartment overlap in a transverse direction.